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1. In March 1951 an extensive purge was carried out in the Czechoslovak Ministry of Foreign Trade: some 300 people were dismissed from their positions, [] a total of 4,600 were to be discharged by 1 Oct 51. They were to become "volunteer" workers. The basis for the purge was suspicion of any disagreement or dissatisfaction with the regime, but it reflected the intense anti-Semitism of Gregor, the Minister. Only three Jews were left in positions of even moderate importance. Among the most prominent persons who left were:

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Hrubis - Director of the Western Europe Dept
 Yanda - Director of Overseas Trade
 Pleva - Director Soviet Orbit Dept. He departed
 "voluntarily", though under pressure
 Landa - Principal trade negotiator
 Seiner - In charge of Swiss and French trade
 Gregg, Soltan - In charge of British trade.

Hrubis, Yanda and Pleva had all received fairly good positions. The others were still without jobs in July 1951.

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important decisions in the Ministry of Foreign Trade are now made by people whose only title to their positions is seniority in the CP. The Czech trade apparatus, in order to be comprehensible to them, has had to be reduced to a degree of simplicity which makes it inapplicable to the complex pattern of Western trade. It has consequently become impossible to make Western - type transactions understood and accepted. One rule must be obeyed in the ministry - 1 e immediately and completely to attend to any matter which concerns the Soviet Union, even at the expense of more important and beneficial matters. This attitude greatly contributes to the decline of exports to the West; Soviet needs have priority. The consensus among Foreign Trade Ministry personnel was that the agency was slated to lose progressively in functional importance. A major reason appeared to be the continuous curtailment of trade with the West. A more important reason was the shifting of the center of economic activities of all Eastern countries to the Cominform Economic Council in Moscow. The Chief of the Czech delegation to this very important council is a comparatively young, brilliant and fanatic man named Goldmann. He has the final word on all important decisions of the Foreign Trade Ministry, whether concerning East or West. In the CP hierarchy he outranks the Minister of Foreign Trade.

2. Prior to March 1951, the Ministry had seven main sections: Plans, Cadre, USSR, Control, Vice Minister I (Privileged Companies), Vice Minister II (People's Democracies) and Vice Minister III (Western Europe and Overseas and British Empire.)

Cadre Section

3. The Cadre Section was responsible for the political reliability of new employees and for making a decision as to whether a new prospect was to be recommended for employment. It was highly secret and together with the Plans Section was housed apart from the rest of the Ministry of Foreign Trade.

It was divided into three sub-sections: Plans, General Personnel Matters and Control of Lossier Section. The last had the investigative function. Its personnel were recently assigned to the Dossier Section to do this work. There was also a group in the Cadre Section responsible for the procurement of passports for members of the ministry who were to be assigned to overseas posts. The following are persons in the Cadre Section:

- (a) Tishy - Cadre Section Chief after March 1951.
(b) Hruza, Dr - Chief of the Section until March 1951.
(c) Fousek, Josef - Until 1948 he was a chauffeur in the Ministry of Foreign Trade. When the Cadre Section was established he became its chief, but was later made assistant to Dr Hruza.

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4. The USSR Section existed for practically the sole purpose of overseeing the fulfillment of contracts made with Czechoslovak industry to produce goods for the Soviet Union. Prior to March 1951 the section was composed of sub-sections which were responsible for various groups of commodities exported to the USSR. As of July 1951, however, the section had been completely decentralized and one official was responsible for the export of only a single commodity. Items imported from the USSR were similarly handled. The activities of this section were kept very secret. Prior to the fall of 1950 it was housed in Dejvice Na Zatorce, across the street from the Soviet Economic Delegation, but it was moved to the Patschek Palace. The chief of the section is a brother of Zdenek Fierlinger.

Control Section

5. The Control Section was composed of somewhat more than 30 persons whose function was to check on members of the Ministry of Foreign Trade to see that they performed their jobs in accordance with existing directives. It was this section's duty to detect "economic sabotage" on the part of ministry members. In reality it constituted a small spy net within the ministry; it is an example of the denunciation system which operates in all Communist regimes. Josef Pousek was chief of the section until March 1951.

he was frequently used as a speaker at meetings.

Vice Minister I

6. The group under Vice Minister I is responsible for overseeing the administrative and commercial activities of the Privileged Companies (Vysadni spolecnost) and the extent to which production plans for export are fulfilled. Under the Vice Minister is a section chief who has charge of the administrative work and personnel questions of the section. Also under the Vice-Minister are four "secretaries", each of whom is responsible for the activities of a group of Privileged Companies. Each secretary in turn has under him a number of officials, one for each Privileged Company.

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- (a) Jonas, Josef - Vice-Minister I. He entered the Ministry of Foreign Trade in November 1949 as Loebel's successor.

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- (b) Rosicky - Section Chief. He is a former bookkeeper in the Legio Bank in Prague and entered the Ministry of Foreign Trade in the spring of 1949.

- (c) Klimo, Dr (formerly Kliem) - Secretary in charge of ceramics, wood, chemicals and glass.

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The following Privileged Companies were grouped under him:

- (1) Chemapol - General Manager was Sada (or Sadek)
- (2) Skloexport - Gen Mgr was Dr Wicha
- (3) Keramika - Gen Mgr Dr Kalina (formerly Kirsch)
- (4) Papco -
- (5) Celuloza - Magnezit
- (6) Koh-I-Nor
- (7) Ligna

- (d) C----- - Secretary for leather and Centrotex. A former employee of the Bata Corp in Zlin,

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Under him were:

- (1) Centrotex - Gen Mgr Ing Adamex
- (2) Exico - Gen Mgr Gajdos, former Bata employee

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- (e) Pisarik - Secretary in charge of Kovo and Metalimpex.

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Under him were:

- (1) Kovo
- (2) Parromet
- (3) Metalimpex
- (4) Kratkí
- (5) Poldi
- (6) Czechoslovak Mines (Doly)

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- (f) Jablonsky (formerly Apfelbaum) - Secretary in charge of food, beer and malt, Ultraphon-Orbis. He is a former director of Gramaphon-Ultraphon

- (1) Oleaspol - Gen Mgr Ing Kohout
- (2) Chmel & Slad
- (3) Metrans - Gen Mgr Dr Schlesinger
- (4) Koospol - Gen Mgr - Smejkal
- (5) Centrokomise - Gen Mgr Dr Gregor (until March 1951)
- (6) Cukrex - Gen Mgr Ing Palasek
- (7) Tobakova Rezie
- (8) Merkuria

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Vice Minister II

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7. Vice Minister II's function was to oversee the fulfillment of trade agreements between Czechoslovakia and the People's Democracies. The section also had control over Czechoslovak commercial attaches sent to satellite nations, the adjustment of money balances, and the issuance of import and export licenses in trade with the satellites. Rudolf Dvorak was Vice Minister II. A former Communist Deputy from Karlovy Vary, he was merely a figure head with no real authority. As of March 1951, the position of Section Chief was not filled. The last regular Section Chief was Ing Jan Pleva, who held the position until December 1950. Following this, Dr Karel Benda, Chief of the Polish Desk, was also Acting Section Chief until February 1951, when he left the Ministry.

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The Desks in this section were:

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- (a) Polish - Chief until February 1951 was Dr Benda. His 1st Assistant was Dr Solc
- (b) Hungarian - Chief until January 1951 was Ing Roman. He is now employed by Kovo in Bratislava. His 1st Asst was Dr Tomasof
- (c) Rumanian - Chief was Stogler. The former chief was Mrs Mary Sindelova, who moved to the Norwegian Desk.
- (d) Bulgarian - Asst. Gen.
- (e) Red China
- (f) East German

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Vice Minister III

8. Vice Minister III's section is divided into two parts, Western Europe and the Overseas and British Empire, each headed by a Section Chief. Dr Rudolf Margolius was Vice Minister III.

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9. Organizationally the Western Europe section was divided geographically into areas or desks, each having its chief and staff. Commercial attaches in various countries were responsible to their respective desk chiefs. There was a large-scale replacement of personnel who had any sort of contact with the West as a result of the purge of March 1951. The following people have been in the Western Europe Section:

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(a) Section Chief - Hrubis

He entered the Ministry of Foreign Trade in February 1948

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Hrubis was suddenly discharged from his post on 1 Mar 51

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(b) Desk Chiefs

- (1) France and Switzerland - Ing Adolf Seiner. Until the end of 1948 he was in the Czech Embassy in Paris as Second Commercial Attache.

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he was dismissed from his position in the Ministry of Foreign Trade on 1 May 51.

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- (2) Benelux - Dr Mastny.

He was released sometime around February 1951.

- (3) Austria, Italy - Dr Klinger.

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- (4) Scandinavia -

- (5) Turkey, Greece, Yugoslavia - Duraj.

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he was released on 1 Mar 51. Duraj's predecessor was Mrs Helly Erlich, who held the position until April 1950. She was then transferred to the Vice Minister I Section, where she worked under Malonsky.

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(c) Commercial Attaches

(1) Ankara - Ing Hermann. [REDACTED]

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(2) Rome - Dr Alexander Nerad (formerly Schoenfeld). [REDACTED]

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(3) Paris - Zelenkz (Zelinka) [REDACTED]

(4) Bern - Vulkan. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] He was released from his post on 1 Mar 51.

(5) Vienna - Reizer. [REDACTED]

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10. The Section Chief for Overseas and British Empire was Dr Josef Janda until April 1951, when he was pensioned off.

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(a) Desk Chiefs

(1) Great Britain - Dr Soltan Gregr (formerly Goldstein), former Commercial Attache in Paris. He left in March 1951.

(2) Near East - Skoedopole, former high official in the old Ministry of Commerce and Industry and later Chief of the Turkish Desk in the Ministry of Foreign Trade. He [REDACTED] was discharged from his post in March 1951.

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(3) India, Pakistan - Viktorin. [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED] He was discharged in March 1951.

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- (4) North America, Western Germany - Dr Antonin Horejs.

He was formerly chief of the Swiss Desk and in 1950 was chief of the Czech trade delegation to Frankfurt, Germany. His release in March 1951 was the greatest disappointment in his life.

- (5) South America - Dr Jindrich Hermann.

He was formerly an official with UNRRA in Pilsen.

(b) Area Assistants

- (1) Argentina, Uruguay, Paraguay - Dr Hubert Stein. He held the position from 7 Apr 47 until May or June 1951, when a completely new staff was employed. He is now in jail.
- (2) Brazil - Dr Jiri Vojtechovsky. He held the position until the end of 1949, when he was sent to Mexico City [see below].
- (3) Colombia, Ecuador, Venezuela - Lubor Zamlar until Winter 1950, when he went to Mexico City [see below].
- (4) Mexico, Central America and Chile - Valeri Hubertova.

She was [redacted] has been with the Ministry of Foreign Trade since 1949.

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(c) Commercial Attaches

(1) London - Ing Kadled. [redacted]
[redacted]

(2) Buenos Aires - First Attache, Josef Kalvoda.

[redacted]
[redacted] in Fall 1948 he was employed by the
Ministry of Foreign Trade.

[redacted]
Second Attache, Dr Karel Kulisek. [redacted]

[redacted] he joined the Ministry of
Foreign Trade in June or July 1950, having
left Kovo where he had been a lawyer in
the legal section [redacted]

[redacted] In Fall 1950 he
left his wife and daughter in Prague and
went to Buenos Aires to relieve Stern
/see below/ [redacted] he is still there.
In addition to his other duties [redacted]

[redacted]
Clerk. Stern. [redacted]
[redacted]

[redacted]
in Spring 1949, Stern was an official of
the District National Committee at Komarno.
He was sent to Buenos Aires in Summer 1949
and is still there [redacted]
working as a clerk for Kalvoda.

(3) Rio de Janeiro - First Attache, Dr Ruda. [redacted]
[redacted]

Second Attache, Jan Rosa. [redacted]
[redacted]

[redacted] He
joined the Ministry of Foreign Trade in
Fall 1948 and was sent to Rio with his
wife in January 1949. [redacted]

[redacted]
foreign trade. As of June 1951 he was
still in Rio.

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- (3) Cont'd - Secretary Edinka Balcarova [redacted]

[redacted] In Summer 1949,
after having been in the office of the
Ministry of Foreign Affairs for only four
weeks, she was sent to Rio. [redacted]

- (4) Montevideo - This is a branch of the Buenos
Aires Czech Embassy. Dr Hoyer of the
Ministry of Foreign Affairs was chief of
this branch and sent an economic report
to Buenos Aires every three weeks [redacted]

- (5) Santiago - The CSR no longer has any official
diplomatic or economic representation in
Chile. Unofficial contact for both the
Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Minis-
try of Foreign Trade is the firm of
Jedlinsky & Kobler. Mr Kobler is a former
official of the Czech Consulate in
Santiago.

- (6) Caracas - Richard Falber. [redacted]

- (7) Mexico City - Jiri Vojtechovsky. [redacted]

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